



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

May 5, 2008



Tulip Poplar trees line the north walkway that steps down to the CVC entrance from First Street NE. Only mature trees, already 25-30 feet in height, were used in order to immediately recreate the tree-lined views of the Capitol established in Frederick Law Olmsted's historic landscape plan of 1874.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 5/5/08 through 5/9/08

- Throughout the CVC, technicians continue final acceptance testing on the facility's complex fire and life-safety systems. This process is still on schedule to be completed this summer.
- Painters, carpenters, plumbers, masons, electricians, cleaning crews and other professionals continue to address punchlist items throughout the facility.
- Glass workers continue to install corner glass panels to the exterior elevators on the CVC Plaza.
- Landscapers continue to plant trees and small plants along the CVC entrance paths and perimeter areas.
- Landscape restoration work continues in the South "Egg" as crews continue to prepare the grounds for sod.
- Masons have begun to re-install column stone that had been removed to clear the way for electrical and telecommunications conduit for the House and Senate Appointments Desks that will be located near the Expansion spaces.
- Masons continue to reset the stair-tread stones in the Senate stairwell atrium. Painting of the stairwell pickets to a bronze finish continues in the House stairwell atrium and is nearly complete (*see photo opposite page*).
- In the pedestrian tunnel to the Library of Congress, terrazzo floor work is progressing from the CVC eastward to the LOC. Masons continue setting base stone on top of the newly placed terrazzo along the tunnel walls.
- Metal workers continue installing bronze cap plates at the base of bronze railing posts throughout the CVC.
- In the Exhibition Hall, panels along the back alcove walls have been removed temporarily to clear the way for installation and testing of fire suppressant materials.
- Audio-visual technicians have re-installed the projection screens in the North and South Orientation Theaters.



Audio-visual technicians recently re-installed the 34-foot-wide projection screens in both the North and South Orientation Theaters.

Next Week – 5/12/08 – 5/16/08

- Technicians will continue the final testing process for the CVC's complex fire and life-safety systems. This work will continue into the summer.
- Masons may begin setting polished black granite slabs around the two large skylights that flank Emancipation Hall. Ultimately, a thin pool of water will slowly revolve around the field of stone when the water features around the skylights become operational this summer.
- Outside, landscape crews will continue to level the grade of the South "Egg" and prepare the grounds for sod placements and plantings. Other plantings will continue along both the north and south entrance ramps.
- Punchlist work will continue throughout interior spaces as millwork, wall stone, floor stone, grout lines, painted surfaces, ceiling panels, plaster work, doors, and other finish materials are inspected and deficiencies corrected.
- Masons will continue grout work and other stone detail work at the Rotunda and Gallery levels in the East Front of the Capitol, while metal works continue installing bronze railings.
- Terrazzo work may begin on the landings in the stairwell atrium in the Senate Expansion Space.
- Terrazzo work will continue in the LOC tunnel progressing from west to east while stone masons continue setting stone at the base of the tunnel walls.
- Landscapers will continue executing the final tree and shrub planting plan along the CVC entrance zones.



Painters are busy applying a coat of finish bronze-colored paint to the hand rail pickets along the spiral staircase in the House Atrium.